

CAMP WIZNER, YPSILANTI, MICH. }
Friday, March 28th, 1862. }

MR. EDITOR:—It has been said that "Music hath charms to soothe the savage breast," but I think it sometimes lends its charms to lead us on to victory. In view of this theory the progress of the regimental band is an all-absorbing topic of interest with us, and one that is kept before our minds by the daily evidences of its improvement. It will not be entirely devoid of interest to your readers when it is seen that said band is composed chiefly of members from Lansing.

On the 13th of February, 1862, Cyrus Alsdorf, of Lansing, was duly mustered in by Lieut. Col. J. R. Smith, United States mustering officer, as chief musician of the 14th Michigan Infantry. About the 20th of the same month; thirteen cornet horns were received for the use of a regimental brass band, together with a splendid silver lead-instrument which was duly presented to Mr. Alsdorf. Since then the exertions of that indefatigable leader have never ceased, and they have been crowned with ultimate success.

The following is an extract from Regimental order, No. 27:

HEADQUARTERS 14th REGIMENT, M. I. }
Camp Wizner, Ypsilanti, March 8, 1862. }

It is ordered that Frank M. Holly, Theodore Holmes, William Little, of Company D, Frank Chading, Henry A. Ducat, of Company C, Henry Amrhein, Company F, James B. Dixon, Daniel F. Mevis, Company D, C. Fricy, Company H, Benjamin Gattan, Albert Davison, Company A, S. C. Decker, and Charles Decker, Jr., Company E, be detailed from their respective companies and organized as a band.

By order of Col. R. P. SINCLAIR.

D. B. HARBAUGH, Adjutant.

These together with a fifer, drummer, and bugler for every company, make forty-three musicians, all under the supervision of Chief Alsdorf. They make a splendid appearance with their instruments on daily parade, and notwithstanding their recent formation, (since the 8th of March, as will be seen by the date of the order) they are second to no other set of regimental musicians that have been raised in the State. Soon after his arrival in camp, James B. Dixon, of Lansing, was appointed by the Colonel, Orderly Serjeant of the band.

On the 20th inst. an appropriate mark of esteem was exhibited by the members of the band towards their beloved leader by the presentation of a magnificent Colt's revolver and appurtenances. The pistol was presented in behalf of the members of the band by Daniel S. Mevis, of Lansing, in a pertinent speech of which the following is the substance:

MR. ALSDORF:—SIR:—Your comrades and fellow musicians wish, through me, to present you with this revolver, in view of their high respect and estimation of you as our leader and worthy fellow-soldier, hoping, that while you will naturally use it in self-defense, you will as naturally use it in the defense of the laws, liberty, and free institutions of our common country; and when peace shall again be restored to our firesides, that you will keep it in your family as an heir-loom to be handed down to your posterity as a true testimony of your position in the hearts of your patriotic friends, and your position in the struggle of 1862; pledging with this our sincere intentions to follow you as our leader, respect you as a soldier, and to love and defend you as a brother.

Mr. Alsdorf accepted the gift with a few appropriate remarks, assuring them of his sincere thanks as well as his feelings would allow, and promising to abide by the request accompanying it.

The revolver was accompanied by a nice holster-belt and fifty rounds of pistol cartridges.

The Great Fallure.